IFW 161

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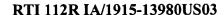
Approved for use through 10/31/2002 U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE e Paperwork Reduction act of 1995, no persona are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number Application Number 09/941,154 TRANSMITTAL **FORM** August 27, 2001 Filing Date Bianchi, John R., et al. First Named Inventor (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) Group Art Unit 1615 **Examiner Name** Paul B. Prebilic RTI 112R IA/ Attorney Docket Number 1915-13980US04 Total Number of Pages in This Submission **ENCLOSURES** (check all that apply) After Allowance Communication Fee Transmittal Form **Assignment Papers** (for an Application) to Group Fee Attached Appeal Communication to Board Drawing(s) (sheets) Amendment/Reply of Appeals and Interferences Licensing-related Papers After Final Appeal Communication to Group Petition (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) Affidavits/declaration(s) Proprietary Information Petition to Convert to a **Extension of Time Request Provisional Application** Status Letter **Express Abandonment Request** Power of Attorney, Revocation Other Enclosure(s) (please Change of Correspondence Information Disclosure identify below): Address Statement Reply Postcard **Terminal Disclaimer** PTO 1449/08A with copies of 4 cited references Request for Refund Certified Copy of Priority CD Number of CD(s) ___ Document(s) Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Response to Missing Parts Remarks under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT Firm Donatdy. Pochop Individual Name Signature August 23, 2004 Date **CERTIFICATE OF MAILING** I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope

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tion No. (Attorney/Agent)





IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Bianchi, John R., et al. CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING Serial No.: 09/941,154 I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope Filed: August 27, 2001 addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, For: "Assembled Implant" Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on: Group Art Unit: 1615 August 23, 2004 **Examiner: Paul B. Prebilic** Donald J. Pochopien Registration No. 32,167 **Attorney for Applicants**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97 AND § 1.98

Mail Stop AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants wish to call to the attention of the Examiner, patents and documents, as listed on Form PTO/SB/08A, which may be considered material to the examination of the above-identified patent application. Two copies of PTO Form PTO/SB/08A, itemizing the disclosures is also enclosed. A copy of each cited reference is also enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

Because this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a First Office Action on the merits, no fee is due.

However, if any fees are due, the Assistant Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees for the filing of this paper to the Deposit Account No. 13-0017 in the name of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Ltd.

Respectfully submitted,

MCANDREWS, HELD & MALLOY, LTD.

Ву

Donald J. Pochopien
Registration No. 32,167
Attorney of Record
34th Floor
500 West Madison
Chicago, Illinois 60661

(312) 775-8133

Dated: August 23, 2004



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form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known				
Application Number 09/941,154				
Filing Date	08/27/2001			
First Named Inventor	Bianchi, John R., et al.			
Group Art Unit	1615			
Examiner Name	Paul B. Prebilic			
Attorney Docket Number	RTI 112R IA/1915-13980US03			

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initial*	Cite No.1	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
	A1	4,950,296	08/21/1990	McIntyre	
	A2	6,025,538	02/15/2000	Yaccarino, III	
	A3	6,200,347	03/13/2001	Anderson et al.	
	A4	6,379,385	04/30/2002	Kalas et al.	
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	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	Cite	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶		
	No. ¹	Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY					
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Initials*	No.1	item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published			
	 				

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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard St. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. Send TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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